



National Child Care Information Center

A service of the Child Care Bureau

NCCIC

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ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE to IMPROVE QUALITY and SUPPLY of CHILD CARE FACILITIES

The following is a sample of organizations with information on intermediary organizations. Intermediary organizations assist child care programs in obtaining financing and can provide or fund technical assistance in such areas as facilities assessment, feasibility studies, marketing studies, architectural engineering, and cost estimating. The following is a sample of Federal agencies with information on intermediary organizations, nonprofit intermediaries organizations that provide technical assistance, and State and local organizations and foundations that support intermediary organizations.

Federal Agencies

■ **Child Care Bureau (CCB)**

Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

The Child Care Bureau has provided grants to support technical assistance in renovation or construction of child care facilities. These grants are described in the following document:

- *Grants for Providing Technical Assistance in the Renovation or Construction of Child Care Facilities* (2001) gives details about the projects of the grantees. The grantees are Bristol Bay Native Association (Dillingham, Alaska); Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (Boston, Massachusetts); Community Loan Fund of New Jersey, Inc. (Trenton, New Jersey); Development Corporation for Children (Minneapolis, Minnesota); Easter Seals (Chicago, Illinois); Eastern Kentucky Child Care (Berea, Kentucky); Illinois Facilities Fund (Chicago, Illinois); Local Initiatives Support Corporation (New York, New York); Washington Area Community Investment Fund (Cheverly, Maryland); and Women's Community Revitalization Project, (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). Additional information is available on the Web at <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ccb/policy1/funding/archives/eloa/fgrant.pdf>.

■ **Head Start Bureau**

Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

The Head Start National Facilities Assistance Desk makes available general technical assistance on the Web at <http://www.wku.edu/Info/General/TTAS/fac/index.htm>. For additional information, contact Bob Crooks, Facilities Specialist, Western Kentucky University, at 800-303-0705 or e-mail bobby.crooks@wku.edu.

Nonprofit Intermediary Organizations that Provide Technical Assistance

■ **Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) and Community Investment Collaborative for Kids (CICK)** — LISC provides grants, loans, and equity investments to Community Development Corporations (CDCs) for neighborhood redevelopment. CICK, which is sponsored by LISC, is a coalition of nonprofit financial and technical assistance intermediaries involved in planning, developing, and financing facilities for low-income child care and Head Start programs. The focus of CICK is to enable communities to create child care facilities through a combination of technical expertise in real estate development and finance with knowledge of the child care industry. Additional information is available on the Web at <http://www.lisc.org/whatwedo/programs/cick/>.

■ The **Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF)** includes a child care program that supports quality care for children through four initiatives. The **San Francisco Child Care Facilities Fund (CCFF)** was launched in 1998 to address the critical shortage of child care spaces in San Francisco. The **Making Space for Children** project in Marin County, California, was created in 2001 to find ways to respond to the need for quality child care. In January 2003, LIIF launched the **New York Child Care Seed Fund**, a program providing early funding and technical assistance to child care providers serving New York City's low income children. In 2003, LIIF expanded its child care activities throughout California with the launch of the **Affordable Buildings for Children's Development (ABCD) Fund**. Additional information about LIIF's investment in child care is available on the Web at <http://www.liifund.org/site/programs/childcareoverview.htm>.

■ **National Children's Facilities Network** is a coalition of nonprofit financial and technical assistance intermediaries involved in planning, developing, and financing facilities for low-income child care and Head Start programs. Its purpose is to share information on issues related to child care facilities, initiate legislation and regulations affecting low-income child care and Head Start facilities, as well as develop and support various financing strategies, initiatives, and programs. The members of the Network increase supply and help improve the quality of child care by providing technical assistance and financing to address capital needs. For additional information, contact Amy Gillman of LISC at 212-455-9840 or on the Web at <http://www.ncfn.org/>.

State and Local Support to Intermediaries Who Provide Technical Assistance for Facilities

California

■ **Affordable Buildings for Children's Development (ABCD) Fund**. The ABCD Fund is the financing component of the ABCD Initiative, a program created by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation to develop a financing system for child care facilities throughout California. The Initiative will provide support in four key areas: capital delivery, technical assistance and capacity development, advocacy, and facilities development support. Additional information about the ABCD Initiative is available on the Web at <http://www.liifund.org/site/programs/childcarecalif.htm>.

■ The **Building Child Care (BCC)** Project exists to provide a centralized clearinghouse of information and services designed to improve child care providers' access to financial resources for facilities development projects in California. With the assistance and input of many others across the State, the four collaborative partners on this project (National Economic Development and Law Center, Child Development Policy Institute Education Fund, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, and Child Care Facilities Fund of the Low Income Investment Fund) have combined their experience, resources and expertise to build a network of information and services for people interested in acquiring, building, renovating, or expanding child care facilities. This project is funded by the California Department of Education. They produced the following document:

- *Child Care Facility Development and Financing: Barriers and Recommendations* (2002), a report to the Legislature by Building Child Care Collaborative, Child Development Division, California Department of Education, discusses the barriers and recommendations for child care facility development and financing in California. Despite the overwhelming need for and benefit of early care and education services, there remain several barriers to the physical development and financing of facilities. Barriers can be identified in three main categories: (1) regulatory or systemic barriers, (2) the limited real estate and finance capacity of the child care sector, and (3) economic challenges. This resource is available on the Web at <http://www.buildingchildcare.org/BCC%20Report%20-%20Pdf.pdf>.

For additional information, contact BCC at 888-411-3535 or on the Web at <http://www.buildingchildcare.org>.

■ The **Child Care Facilities Fund (CCFF)** in San Francisco was established to address the need for funds to build and renovate space for child care in the City of San Francisco. CCFF's Child Care Center Assistance Program includes capital and predevelopment grants; zero interest mini-loans to support planning; short-term direct loans; long-term, subsidized loans and access to conventional loans on favorable terms through CCFF guarantees or interest rate write-downs. They also offer one-on-one technical assistance, workshops, classes, and publications for child care providers focused on facilities development and business management. Additional information about CCFF is available on the Web at <http://www.liifund.org/site/programs/childcaresf.htm>.

■ The **Making Space for Children** project in Marin County, California, was created in 2001 to find ways to respond to the need for quality child care. Making Space for Children works to preserve existing child care facilities and services, strategically expand services to meet the needs of working families, and enhance the quality of existing facilities throughout the County through advocacy, direct technical assistance on real estate issues, and brokering funding. Additional information about Making Space for Children is available on the Web at <http://www.liifund.org/site/programs/childcaremarin.htm>.

District of Columbia

■ The mission of the **Washington Area Community Investment Fund (WACIF)** is to finance affordable housing and community development efforts in the Washington metropolitan area by securing social investments and permanent capital from individuals, churches, banks, foundations, corporations, and other institutions. With these resources, WACIF extends below-market-rate loans to nonprofit housing developers, tenant groups, and social service providers to finance low- and moderate-income housing and community-based facilities in the Washington metropolitan area. Additional information is available on the Web at <http://www.wacif.org/>.

Illinois

■ The **Illinois Facilities Fund (IFF)** is a Statewide organization created by the Chicago Community Trust to meet the credit needs of small, nonprofit, human services providers. The IFF gives priority to new or expanded child care centers in inner city neighborhoods. Additional information is available on the Web at <http://www.iff.org>.

Maine

■ **Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI)** is a private, nonprofit community development corporation that helps communities find solutions to their problems. The Child Care Development Project (CCDP), one of CEI's Statewide efforts, encourages entrepreneurship by supplying child care providers with the funding and training they need to grow and succeed. The Project also encourages employer-supported child care. Loans generally are made in amounts from \$5,000 to \$150,000, but smaller and larger loan requests have been considered. Its capital comes primarily from a Ford Foundation grant, as well as the Small Business Association's Micro-loan Program and U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Economic Development funds. These funds have leveraged over \$4.6 million from other private and public sources to support expansion and improvement of child care throughout the State. Additional information is available on the Web at <http://www.ceimaine.org/lending/childcarebrochure.htm>.

Massachusetts

■ The **Child Care Capital Investment Fund** pools funds from public and private sources, including foundations, government entities, banks, and insurance companies, and re-lends them to nonprofit child care providers serving low-income children. The Fund makes loans and provides technical assistance, serving as an intermediary between child care providers and financing entities. The Fund also administers several grant programs in collaboration with other agencies, using funds contributed by foundations, as well as State and local sources. Additional information on the Child Care Capital Investment Fund, is available on the Web at <http://www.cccif.org>.

Minnesota

■ **Minnesota Development Corporation for Children** launched the Business Development Center that offers a continuum of training and technical assistance in business planning and financial management for early childhood education programs licensed under Rule 3 (mostly child care centers) and in community-based planning for new or expanded child care facilities. The Business Development Center has three primary goals: to increase the quality of child care by strengthening the business and financial management skills of child care center directors and managers; increase the availability of child care services to low- and moderate-

income communities; and positively impact the professionalism and stability of the child care business sector. Additional information is available on the Web at <http://www.dcc-corner.com/fcf.html>.

New Hampshire

■ **New Hampshire Community Loan Fund**, backed by a \$5 million commitment by Provident, a national financial service company, works to expand and improve the delivery of child care services in New Hampshire. The Loan Fund provides loan capital to child care facilities and gives guidance and support to nonprofit child care organizations to improve their programs. Additional information is available on the Web at <http://www.nhclf.org/CCLI01.html>.

New York City

■ **The New York Child Care Seed Fund** provides early funding and technical assistance to child care providers serving New York City's low income children. Additional information about the Seed Fund is available on the Web at <http://www.liifund.org/site/programs/childcareny.htm>.

North Carolina

■ **Self-Help** in North Carolina makes short- and long-term (up to 20-year) loans to early childhood programs throughout North Carolina using a community development financing approach. Self-Help is willing to consider "risky" loans and provide technical assistance to potential borrowers. Technical assistance may include helping a child care provider create a first budget, helping an organization that is seeking to build or expand a child care center put together a comprehensive financing package, and ensuring that child care programs that apply for loans know about the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) child care food program and other public subsidies. Self-Help publishes the following manual:

- *Child Care Technical Assistance Needs* (2002) is available on the Web at <http://www.self-help.org/search/index.asp?catalog=&page=&query=child+care>.
- *Business Side of Child Care* (February 1999) addresses child care business operations, regulations, quality issues, financing considerations, facility planning, and Self-Help's approach to child care lending. This resource is available on the Web at <http://www.self-help.org/PDFs/BusinessSide.pdf>.

Additional resources are available on the Self-Help Web site at <http://www.self-help.org/>. Click on "Search" and type in "child care."

Ohio

■ **Ohio Community Development Finance Fund (CDFF)** is a Statewide nonprofit intermediary that has provided resources for planning, technical assistance, and funding for the development of expanded quality space for Head Start and child care programs since 1993. *The Newsie*, a quarterly newsletter, has information on CDFF's work on issues of children's space and a list of approved projects. Additional information is available on the Web at <http://www.financefund.org/ccfpg.html>.

Rhode Island

■ The **Rhode Island Child Care Facilities Fund** provides the capital and technical expertise that child care programs need to improve the quality and capacity of their physical space. The Fund assists licensed child care centers and homes that are committed to providing high quality care and to serving low-income children eligible for Department of Human Services (DHS) subsidies – from infancy through school-age years. The Fund can provide a combination of training, technical assistance, and flexible, affordable financing. Since its inception in November 2001, the Fund has invested more than \$2.5 million in the Rhode Island Child Care Community. Additional information is available on the Web at http://www.lisc.org/rhode_island/programs/facilities_2881.shtml.

Tennessee

■ **Tennessee Child Care Facilities Corporation** is a quasi-State, nonprofit financial agency designed to assist in the enhancement, expansion, and creation of child care facilities through loan guarantees, direct loans, and corporate/community partnership grants. Additional information, including a link to the “Child Care Business Exchange” newsletter, is available on the Web at <http://www.state.tn.us/humanserv/childcare.htm#loan>.

Washington

■ **Child Care Facility Fund**, sponsored by the Washington State Department of Trade and Economic Development, was created with the goal of helping business and State government work together to meet the child care needs of working families by providing financial assistance to employer-supported child care projects throughout the State. It provides loans up to \$100,000 (5 percent interest) and grants up to \$25,000 to companies for creating or expanding child care centers for their employees. Child care businesses that have employer contracts for child care may also be eligible to apply for funds. Since 1991, 45 projects have received over \$1.7 million in Child Care Facility Fund dollars. These projects, collectively, have leveraged over 1,100 child care slots. For additional information, contact Tom Stolz at 360-725-4045 or on the Web at <http://www.cted.wa.gov/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=351&tabindex=7>.

Foundations that Support Intermediaries

■ **The Enterprise Foundation’s** Child Care Programs help community-based organizations, child care advocates, and State and local governments expand and improve child care opportunities for low-income families. They have the expertise to identify gaps in services and system designs, to locate assets, and to facilitate action steps that will improve the quality and quantity of child care in a community. They make loans and grants to child care providers, resource and referral agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the planning and development of child care facilities, rehabilitation of child care homes, and development of support networks that improve the care given by licensed and unlicensed providers. Additional information is available on the Web <http://www.enterprisefoundation.org/solutions/childcare/index.asp>.

■ **The David and Lucile Packard Foundation** provides grants to nonprofit organizations in the following broad program areas: conservation; population; science; children, families, and communities; arts; and organizational effectiveness and philanthropy. The Foundation provides

national and international grants, and also has a special focus on four Northern California Counties. The overarching goal of the Foundation's "Build Community and National Capacity Program" is to increase the capacity of local communities and the nation to respond to the needs of children, youths, and families. The Foundation has helped to fund the Children's Facilities Development Technical Assistance Program at the National Economic Development Law Center. Additional information is available on the Web at <http://www.packard.org>.

■ **The Miriam and Peter Haas Fund** in San Francisco is a community foundation that makes grants to support child care projects and provides technical assistance. They fund the Model Centers Initiative in San Francisco, which provides multi-year support to help several child care centers that serve low-income families with preschool-age children become "model centers." Funds are used for specific improvements, including physical renovations and planning for the purchase and/or construction of a new site. The Fund has paid for a five-year evaluation and technical assistance to the model centers. For additional information on the Model Centers Initiative, contact Cheryl Polk, Program Director, Miriam and Peter Haas Fund, at 415-296-9249.

■ **The Providian Child Care Initiative** is an effort by Providian, a national financial service company, to study, expand, and improve the delivery of child care services. The initiative has helped to create or maintain thousands of quality child care spaces at facilities in underserved neighborhoods throughout California, Kentucky, New Hampshire, Texas, and Utah. Additional information is available on the Web at <http://www.providian.com/about/cg.htm>.

Additional Resources

■ *Financing Child Care in the United States: An Expanded Catalog of Current Strategies* (2001), by Anne Mitchell, Louise Stoney, and Harriet Dichter, sponsored by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, is a 186-page compendium of innovative public- and private-sector strategies for financing child care services, including different strategies for generating new revenue and increasing current revenue. Each strategy is illustrated by in-depth profiles and analyses of current State/community initiatives. This resource is available on the Web at <http://www.emkf.org/pdf/childcare2001.pdf>.

■ *Building for the Future: A Guide to Facilities Loan Funds for Community-Based Child and Family Services* (January 2000), by Carl Sussman, prepared for the Finance Project, is a guide for policy-makers, funders, program directors, and opinion leaders trying to expand and strengthen the system of supports and services for children and families. It provides information from which to assess the feasibility and potential impact a specialized lending program might have on addressing the capital needs of those who deliver supports and services to children and families. This resource is available on the Web at <http://www.financeproject.org/facilityfund.htm>.

■ *The Head Start Facilities Manual* (1995), prepared for the Head Start Bureau, is a tool for grantees and delegate agencies to assess their existing facilities, to make improvements, and to secure space for expansion. It provides information, checklists, and worksheets for facilities assessment and planning. It includes chapters on assessment, compliance issues, facilities design

and funding. Each chapter includes checklists and/or other resource materials. This resource is available from the Head Start Information and Publications Center at 202-737-1030 or e-mail puborder@headstartinfo.org.

The National Child Care Information Center does not endorse any organization, publication or resource.

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